UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/950
S/1995/635
1 August 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 39
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 31 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Foreign Ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 28 July 1995

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 39, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pengiran ABDUL MOMIN
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

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Annex

Statement dated 28 July 1995 by the Foreign Ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

1. The Foreign Ministers of ASEAN discussed the extremely grave situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and condemned the seizure of the United Nations safe areas of Srebrenica and Zepa by the Bosnian Serb forces as well as their attacks on the safe areas of Bihac, Gorazde and Sarajevo. They demand the immediate withdrawal of the Bosnian Serb forces from Srebrenica and Zepa. They support all international efforts to put a stop to the continuing aggression, strangulation of the United Nations safe areas, ethnic cleansing and genocide in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina by the Bosnian Serbs, which constitute flagrant violations of international humanitarian law and Security Council resolutions.

2. They express their profound anguish at the failure and paralysis of the United Nations mission in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in responding and addressing the fast-deteriorating situation in that country. They call upon the United Nations, in particular the Security Council to authorize the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to use all necessary measures to protect the United Nations safe areas in accordance with all relevant Security Council resolutions. They also call on the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to protect, defend and secure the lifelines to all United Nations safe areas, in particular Sarajevo.

3. They condemn the open and blatant attacks on UNPROFOR personnel by the Serbs. They support the continuing presence of UNPROFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They call upon UNPROFOR to respond appropriately in order to enable it to carry out its mandate in Bosnia and Herzegovina effectively.

4. The Foreign Ministers accept the right of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and the legitimate right of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to request and receive military assistance. They therefore support the lifting of the United Nations arms embargo imposed on Bosnia and Herzegovina as called for in paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 49/10 adopted on 3 November 1994.

5. They also support the sovereign and national right of Croatia to regain the territories seized and now under the control of the Serbs.

6. They regret the failure of the Security Council to find a just and durable settlement and call upon the permanent members of the Council effectively to bring an end to the tragedy and achieve peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They pledge their readiness to support international efforts to realize this objective.

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